

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Many ~~jurisdiction~~ jurisdictions have regulations that prohibit changing the probability of occurrence associated with the reel symbols. This makes it more difficult to create bonus or secondary games with high payouts using the bonus game reels and reel symbols.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Similarly in another embodiment, the award symbols include one relatively large award and several ~~relative~~ relatively small awards. In this embodiment, a probability of being indicated on the payline is associated with the award symbols such that the probability associated with the award symbol including the relatively large award is less than at least one of the probabilities associated with the award symbols including the relatively small awards being indicated on the payline. In another embodiment, the probability associated with the award symbol including the relatively large award is less than a plurality of the probabilities associated with the award symbols including the relatively small awards. In a further embodiment, the probability associated with the award symbol including the relatively large award is less than all of the probabilities associated with the award symbols including the relatively small awards.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 20 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In another alternative embodiment, one or more symbol indicators are associated with the wild symbol. In this embodiment, when the wild symbol is indicated on the reels, the reel including the wild symbol is held stationary while the other reels not including the wild symbol are activated. When the reels not including the wild symbol stop, the symbol indicator or indicators associated with the wild symbol indicate or point to one or more symbols on the reels. The symbol indicator or indicators may point to symbols on different reels or the same reel as the reel including the wild symbol. In one embodiment, the symbol indicator or indicators associated with the wild symbol point to a fixed location or locations on the reels. It should be appreciated that the symbol indicators may indicate or point to a randomly selected location on the reels or a designated section on the reels. The symbols indicated by the symbol indicators are combined with the wild symbol to form a symbol combination in an activation. The gaming device ~~provided~~ provides the player with any awards associated with the formed symbol combination.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 52, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a further alternative embodiment, the present invention is employed in a card game such as a video poker game. In this embodiment, the gaming device display a plurality of cards to a player. The cards include a plurality of symbols including at least one wild symbol. The symbols may be any suitable symbols such as numbers, colors, letters, playing card suits, images or any other suitable symbols or images. If a card includes a wild symbol but a winning combination of cards ~~are~~ is not indicated, the gaming device holds the card including the wild symbol. The gaming device then replaces at least one of the cards for a designated number of rounds. The number of rounds may be predetermined, randomly determined, determined based on a wager by a player or according to any suitable determination method. Thus, the gaming device provides the player with additional opportunities to win awards related to the wild symbol on the cards. In one embodiment, the gaming device replaces one or more of the cards in the rounds until a winning combination of cards is indicated. In another embodiment, the gaming device replaces one or more of the cards until there are no rounds remaining in the game. In this embodiment, the gaming device enables the player to obtain one or more awards in the game. In a further embodiment as described above, the gaming device holds the card including the wild symbol when the wild symbol appears on the card and the award amount associated with the combination of symbols indicated by the cards is not greater than a designated award amount.